

# *Cinematheque*

## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SHOW DATE: May 6, 1990

NATURAL FEATURES and FRIENDLY WITNESS  
NEW FILMS BY GUNVOR NELSON AND WARREN SONBERT  
BOTH FILMMAKERS IN PERSON

SAN FRANCISCO CINEMATHEQUE

CONTACT: David Gerstein, 558-8129

Special location: Kabuki Theater  
Post and Fillmore Streets, San Francisco

Sunday May 6, 1990; 7:30 p.m.

Admission: \$6.75 general

On Sunday, May sixth, the San Francisco Cinematheque will present new works by Bay Area filmmakers Gunvor Nelson and Warren Sonbert. Both filmmakers will be present at the screening. This program is being held in conjunction with the San Francisco International Film Festival, and will take place at the Kabuki Theater, Post and Fillmore Streets in San Francisco. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. There will be a special admission price of \$6.75. More information is available from the Cinematheque at 558-8129.

Gunvor Nelson and Warren Sonbert are renowned for their distinctive approaches to creating tapestries of moving images which deny familiar cinematic ingredients, yet are profoundly evocative and visually stunning experiences. The Cinematheque and the Festival are pleased to present new works by two of the Bay Area's most esteemed personal filmmakers.

In Natural Features, Swedish-born Gunvor Nelson blends hundreds of still images with three dimensional objects and "real" (though distorted) images photographed through glass layerings into a free-associative and playfully bizarre form of collage animation. Perhaps no film has been more successful at matching an evident passion for painting with a sensitivity to filmmaking as lush pigments alter with and punctuate the different photographic layers.

Warren Sonbert's Friendly Witness is a tapestry of images recorded in locations ranging from the filmmaker's backyard to some of the most remote locations on earth. Hundreds of shots are connected through gestures, actions, and visual qualities. The result is a complex visual experience which ranges from witty punning to bitter irony. The binary soundtrack -- pop and orchestral music -- is a curious counterpoint to the visual images.